National Electricity Fund

2261. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to create the National Electricity Fund to help the State Electricity Boards to plug transmission and distribution losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the transmission and distribution losses in power sector in the country have increased during the last few years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent the fund created by Government is going to check such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29-02-2008 stated that it is the poor state of transmission and distribution (T and D) that is a drag on the sector and huge investments are required to be made in T and D, but linked to fundamental reforms. Hence, it was proposed by the Finance Minister to create a National Fund for transmission and distribution reform. In pursuance of the announcement made by the Finance Minister for creation of a National Fund, a Committee under the chairmanship of the Member (Power), Planning Commission has been constituted to consider various aspects of establishing the National Electricity Fund (NEF).

(c) to (d) Prior to year 2001-02, utilities used to monitor Transmission and Distribution (T and D) losses. The concept of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT and C) loss was introduced in 2001-02. AT and C loss captures not only the technical losses but also the theft, pilferages and commercial losses due to poor metering and billing and non-realization of dues. According to the report on Performance of State Power Utilities for the year 2004-05 to 2006-07 prepared by the Power Finance Corporation, the AT and C losses of the State Power Utilities at the national level for 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 were 34.82%, 35.18% and 33.07% respectively.

Gas supply to Kawas and Gandhar projects of NTPC

†2262. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether gas based NTPC plants situated at Kawas and Gandhar in Gujarat are being supplied gas as per their demand;

(b) if so, the details of the demand and supply of these plants;

(c) the installed power generation capacity and the actual power production of these plants; and

(d) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government, Gujarat Government, NTPC or State Electricity Board has requested to enhance the gas supply and if so, by when a decision in this regard would be taken to ensure supply?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.